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Date: June 25, 2001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant

Lutz Richter et al.

Appl. No.

09/852,348

Filed

May 9, 2001

Title

Gathering Stapler with Separate Drives and Method of Operating the

Gathering Stapler

Art Unit

LETTER

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The above-mentioned new patent application was filed on May 9, 2001 without a signed oath or declaration, under the provision of 37 C.F.R. 1.53(f).

In accordance with the above-mentioned rule, enclosed herewith is the original signed declaration.

The undersigned hereby states that the application filed in the Patent and Trademark Office is the application which the inventor(s) executed by signing the declaration. 601.01(a).

The fee required for the late filing of an oath or declaration in the amount of \$130.00 is also enclosed/

Respectfully submitted,

YBACK

/mib

Date: June 25, 2001

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